

KAPOK

EGLW-1177

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TO: Chief of Mission, Frankfurt
Attn: Chief of Base, Pullach

FROM: Chief, EE

SUBJECT: Operational/CART/UJDRIZZLY

Reference: EGLA-10917

1. Traces have been run on Dr. Herbert ENGELSING in an effort to ~~determine~~/uncover evidence that he was actually a member of the Rote Kapelle and to determine his specific role. We have also tried to determine, on the basis of files available at Headquarters, ~~the extent of his connections to~~ whether ~~he~~ was a member of the Rote Kapelle, and what his relationship ~~was~~ to ENGELSING.

2. Unfortunately, most of the information available on ENGELSING has been supplied by him directly or comes from documents furnished by him. His own story as to his participation in the SCHULZE-BOYSEN ~~has undergone~~ certain changes since his statement cited in MSB-1231 in 1947; ~~and his wife~~ ~~and~~ subsequent statements ~~he~~ made to ODENVI in 1948 and to the Consulate General in ~~Zurich~~ Zurich in 1952 (MSZA-743).

3. However, certain documents which he submitted to the Zurich Consulate General in 1947 in support of his visa application are of interest, since they are affidavits made by a number of individuals (including ~~himself~~) ~~make~~ ~~spec~~ ~~mention~~ ENGELSING's wartime resistance activities. ~~These affidavits are as follows:~~

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCESMETHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
DATE 2007

Hans Globke

a) character reference from ~~Engelsing~~, dated 8 November 1946. ENGELSING known to me since school days, when we went to the same gymnasium. We got better acquainted in 1935 when E. had difficulties because of his wish to marry a half-Jewess. In my position as Referent in the Interior Ministry, I succeeded in arranging a legalization of the marriage which was valid also for Germany. This case ~~had~~ produced a strong reaction in party circles which naturally strongly opposed this marriage. The proceedings were for all concerned fraught with danger, as not only the race political office, but also a representative of the deputy of the Führer had opposed authorization of the marriage. Since I had become convinced in the course of these events that Dr. E. was as opposed to Nazism as I, our families were more and more to contact after ~~the marriage~~ his marriage. In that way I found out that the majority of E's friends belonged to the ~~opposition~~ opposition circles. Therefore I was not surprised when I learned that E. was in close contact with the HARNACK-SCHULTZE-BOISEN resistance group. I myself took an active part in the planning and preparation of the 20th of July revolutionary attempt. I worked very closely with leading people in the civilian leader ~~group~~ group and was myself proposed as State Secretary in the Ministry of Education. Major General STEIFF, who provided the explosive for the assassination attempt was a friend of many years standing. I was therefore extremely endangered after the failure of the assassination attempt and began to make preparations for fleeing to Switzerland. E. gave me substantial help in this through his good knowledge of local conditions there, and also assisted me during the period of preparation through valuable information on the situation in film and theatre circles. I finally decided against flight to Switzerland because I would ~~not~~ have endangered my family, and because on the other hand I could, after bribing the guards, give valuable information to my friends and acquaintances who had been imprisoned in Berlin, Lehrterstrasse, because of their participation in the 20th of July. But as the situation became more and more dangerous, I left Berlin at the end of March 1945 together with E. and went to Bavaria. The Gestapo sent a Berlin official to arrest me there about the end of April 1945. Because of the quick advance of the Americans the intended arrest could not be carried through.

b) character reference from Dr. Ing. Fritz KONZ of Stuttgart-Sonnenberg,
~~Haldenwaldstr. 3. Date: 12 June 1946.~~

Got to know E. in 1943 when his house burned. Some time afterwards he told me I certainly wasn't of Aryan descent, and the same was true of his wife. When my house was destroyed in December 1943, E. ~~offered~~ offered me shelter in his house, saying that he and his wife did it only because they were sure of my opposition to Nazism and that they only wanted to frequent people who held these views. I was told later by members of my firm, ~~which~~ the office of which was in a nearby house, that I had moved into a politically suspect house. ... After the failure of the 20th of July assassination attempt, it was clear to me that ~~the~~ of the Interior Ministry, who kept us informed of the ~~current~~ of the current status of the persecution of Jews and Mischlings, must have been connected with the GOERDELER people. Dr. E. ~~sometimes~~ sometimes furnished him news about the progressive internal disintegration as it was evidencing itself in theatre and film circles, and I as it could be provided to him from ~~the~~ building industry, GT and other technical circles.

c) affidavit from Erich Edgar SCHULTZE (father of SCHULTZE-BOISEN),
Mülheim/Ruhr-~~Speldorf~~ Speldorf, Date: 15 June (1946?)

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Mrs. E. as well as her husband were on extremely friendly terms with my son Harro SCHULTZE-BOYSEN and his wife. The house of Mr. and Mrs. E. was, before the discovery of the conspiracy, one of the chief meeting places of the group. After the arrest of my son, Mr. and Mrs. E., although they were themselves in danger, tried in every possible way to ~~assist~~ get help for my son, to provide him with food and to obtain a defence for the accused. They acted with the greatest kindness and friendship towards my wife and me when we were in Berlin in the difficult days after the arrest of our children.

d) ~~reference from Dr. Friedrich-Carl SERRE, lawyer, Berlin W 15, Mainkstr. 12. Date: 7 Nov. 1946.~~

~~I~~ Appointed member of the Prassidium of the Berlin Rechtsanwaltskammer by the "Allied Kommandatura. Was in the years 1943 and 1944 the contact man between the 20th of July group and [redacted]. I have known E. approximately 15 years. In the 12 years of the Hitler regime in which I often saw and spoke with E., I was from the beginning convinced that E. was against the regime and active against it. I know from reliable opposition circles that E. played a very active role in the so-called SCHULZE-BOYSEN circle, and without concern for his own person or safety, supported this circle actively and was self-sacrificing in his aid to the survivors.

e) reference from Beate von MOLO-MOISSI, daughter of Alexander MOISSI, actor.

I met E., whom I had known before, at the beginning of the war in Rome. E. explained that there were many groups in Germany that were against the Nazis and declared himself a member of such a group.

f) affidavit by Alfred MUELLER, Berlin-Dahlem, Amselfstr. 15. Dated: 20 May (year not given):

E. took part in the SCHULTZE-BOYSEN attempt in 1943 to overthrow the Nazi system. It ended with the execution of the S-B couple. In spite of the danger hanging over him, he gave relatives of S-B. shelter and assistance after S-B's execution. Moreover, he arranged with extraordinary courage and skill the release of the BUSCHMANN couple who ~~were held in prison~~ had been imprisoned in connection with this ~~July~~ putsch. (Dr. BUSCHMANN is now president of the Central Administration for Trade and Provisions in the Soviet Sector of Berlin).

g) character reference from Günther WEISENBERG, Berlin-Dahlem, Selchowstr 6. Date: 15 March 1947.

I belonged from 1937-1942 to an illegal resistance organization, the SCHULZE-BOYSEN -HARNACK group; was arrested in 1942 with about 600 others, of whom about two-thirds got the death penalty. I know E. for about ten years. E. was always ready to use the numerous possibilities at his disposal as production head of Tobis for covering and camouflaging illegal resistance work. The chief of our organization, S-B., was in close contact with E. He was frequently in his home, and I often met E. in S-B's home. E. was knowledgeable about many proceedings in our organization, and through all the years kept silent, tolerated and, where he could, furthered our work. He was a so-called contact man, that is, our organization used fully the connection which he had to leading personalities of the Third Reich. He introduced to S-B numerous very important officials, officers and leading personalities of the Hitler regime. In this way he played a very important role for us. Besides, he passed on information to us which we sent out over the secret radio.

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b) Further character references, attesting to E's anti-Nazi attitude ~~without~~ in general terms, were given by t

4. Included in the group of documents submitted by ENGELSING to the Consulate were character references from the following persons:

- a) Dr. jur. Alfred L. ESSERS, lawyer, Weiler. Date: 10 September 1946;
- b) Gustav PROELICH, Munich-Schwabing, Kunigundenstr. 54, 18 December 1948
- c) Mayor of Konstanz (name illegible). Date, 26 July 1947
- d) Leon HILD, commissioner in the Street, Konstanz. Date: 4 June 1947
- e) Lt. MATHIEU, of the 1st French Army, Military Government, Allmannsorf, Date: 27 June 1945.

5. It is not possible to determine here if there is in your file a copy of ~~the~~ dispatch dated 16 January 1948. It concerns interviews which ODEKVI held with Mrs. ENGELSING in October 1947. In the course of these interviews, Mrs. E. said she and her husband were very friendly with and furnished information to SCHULZE-BOYSEN and his wife. Her husband attempted to intercede with the Gestapo on behalf of S-B after his arrest, but unsuccessfully. She claimed that it was ~~not~~ only upon reading DULLES' book "Germany's Underground", published 1947, that she first learned that SCHULZE-BOYSEN was connected with Russian espionage. She said she first met the S-B's in 1938; that between 1938 and 1941 the S-B's and the E's saw each other every two or three weeks, but later drifted apart because S-B and his wife did not get along well together. She said she did not believe that S-B was a Communist; but rather would classify him as an extreme liberal or Socialist. She said that both she and her husband furnished S-B with information which they obtained in the course of their own underground activities. She and her husband were very friendly with ~~Kurt~~ ^{Alois}, the German official ~~talked~~ with the Ministry of the Interior. From ~~the~~ the E's were able to obtain political information and information concerning the policies of the

German Government which they, in turn, turned over to S-B. She said she did not believe her husband knew any more of S-B's true activities ~~than~~ at the time than she did.

6/ODENFY interviewed ENGELSING himself in December 1947. During the course of this interview, E. stated ~~that~~ to his knowledge S-B was not a Communist, but rather a liberal Anti-Nazi leader of the opposition movement, that S-B may have been used by the Communists to further their own ends but the S-B circle did not consist of Communists with two exceptions: Kurt SCHUMACHER and Walter HUSEMANN. He said that Elfriede PAUL ~~had~~ may have been a Communist but he would more preferably describe her as a Socialist. He stated she was now in the Russian Sector of Berlin employed as a city official. E. said he had two long discussions ~~with~~ with S-B of which his wife was not aware. They were as follows:

a) The first occurred in 1939 when S-B was engaged in collecting and distributing small typewritten leaflets which aimed to discredit the Nazi Party and work up opposition to the Nazis. Shortly after England entered the war against Germany, S-B told E. that he felt his group had two main duties, one being the distribution of the leaflets, and the other being the gathering of information concerning political conditions within Germany itself, showing the most vulnerable spots of the Nazi Party whereby it could best be discredited among the German populace. At that time, S-B told E. he desired to make a contact with the British Government and make some arrangement to furnish information of this type to England. He specifically requested that E. furnish him with any evidence of signs of Germany's internal collapse, and with the names of individuals or organizations which were anti-Nazi and which would be capable of governing Germany after the defeat of the Nazi Party. At the time of this conversation, E. stated, S-B exhibited no Communist or Russian inclinations whatsoever. E's advice to S-B ~~at that time~~ was

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that the two functions must be separate, and that the anti-Nazi propaganda activities could not be continued simultaneously with any political activities in the furnishing of information to England. E. said he later learned that S-B had attempted to offer his services to the British through Count DOUGLAS, but that the British ~~had~~ Government ignored the offer made. E. said he thought he had learned of this from S-B's father after the execution of S-B. According to S-B's father, this incident disillusioned S-B and he felt that the British ~~had~~ Government had failed to appreciate the value of his offer.

b) The second conversation took place in the fall of 1941 or the spring of 1942, at which time S-B exhibited a definite pro-Russian philosophy. E. said that this conversation did not deal with the policies of the S-B group, but was rather a philosophical discussion during which S-B stated he felt that Germany must collaborate with Russia, that such collaboration would not necessarily ~~make Germany Communistic~~ make Germany Communistic, but that the collaboration could be done in such a way that there would be no reasons for Germany to accept Communism. E. said that as a result of the conversation he was able to see the drift of S-B's philosophy and that he, E., did not desire to become further involved with the activities of S-B and thereafter had very little to do with him.

In response to specific questioning by ODENVY, E. ^{said} he did not know the Russian principals of S-B. - in fact, he, himself, had no definite proof indicating that S-B had been utilized by the Russians in any way and that he was not wholly convinced that he had. Of his own personal knowledge S-B ~~had~~ had only been engaged in anti-Nazi underground activities and the extent of any pro-Russian influence known to him was only that indicated in his conversation with S-B in 1942.

E. ~~had~~ further told ODENVY that he had been ~~asked~~ asked to furnish a list of those persons who were anti-Nazi and had given the following names: Heidemaria HATTEYER, actress; Gustav FROELICH; ^{Hans Closke} ~~GUNTER~~; Guenther RITTAU;

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Greta WEISER; Thomas SCHWERIN; Paul VERHOEVEN. E. said he had been associated with these persons in connection with his work in the film industry and that he was instrumental in obtaining from them information of the type desired by S-B. He maintained, however, that none of these individuals was aware that what they had told to E. was passed on to anyone.

E. stated that S-B had never told him directly that he was in any way inclined to aid the Russians or that he desired to furnish information to the Russians; E. further said he did not believe that S-B had been paid by the Russians as was claimed by the German prosecutor in the trial.

7. In December 1949 when E. was questioned specifically about ~~CLOTHKE~~ CLOTHKE's role in EQUAL, he stated that ~~CLOTHKE~~ was not a conscious collaborator in EQUAL, but was a close friend and informer of E's. He further described CLOTHKE as a strict Catholic and adherent of the Rightwing Zentrum party, but no Nazi.

8. A 1950 biographical sketch of ~~CLOTHKE~~ issued by ODAC ID # contains the following: He applied for membership in the NSDAP October 1940, but membership was refused in November 1941 on grounds that he was not politically reliable. He had been a member of the Zentrum Party 1922-1933, was considered an ardent Catholic, and was personally acquainted with Cardinal PREISING. ~~CLOTHKE~~ joined the Reichsbund der Beamten, the NSDAP/ NSRB (National Socialist Lawyers' League), and was a contributing member of the NSKK. It is known that he enjoyed the confidence of several of the high ranking officers who took part in the July 20th plot.

9. In an attempt to interpret the above ^{ENCLASING} traces, several things are apparent:

(1) Assuming that the ~~CLOTHKE~~ document mentioned in paragraph 3 is genuine (what we have at hand is a photostat of the copy (Abschrift) notarized in Konstanz in 2-7-47), then ~~CLOTHKE~~ was well aware that E. was closely connected

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8. In MSZA-490 of 19 October 1950, one finds the comment "Of these (the persons E. had named in Germany whose connections to EQUAL had previously been unknown) the one whom E. had always claimed was closest to him and to a great extent had shared his own participation in EQUAL is still most readily available should any inquiry be undertaken concerning EQUAL. He is ~~MSZA~~. Hans GLOBSKE."

10. Additional information on ENGELSING may be found in the following documents which we believe are available to you: MSZA-118 ff 21 December 1948, MOHA-8136 of 18 December 1950, HICOG dispatch 2967 of 16 March 1951, ~~and~~ MSZA-743 of 27 March 1952, ~~and~~ MSZA-6489 of 7 May 1952. The most recent information in our files as to the whereabouts of ~~EWE~~/ E. is MSZA-743 where he was reported to be living in Kreuzlingen, Switzerland and applying for a visa to the United States (where his wife and children were residing). A communication from ODIBEX dated 5 June 1952, indicated that Mrs. E. was under investigation to establish possible deportation proceedings.

Schober

with the S-B. group. It is also obvious from the document that E. and [redacted] were on terms of close friendship. But the tantalizing question of whether [redacted] himself was actually a member of the Rote Kapelle remains unresolved. At the very least, it appears from the KONZ testimonial, that [redacted] was a witting informant of E.

1. As for E., evidence of his connections with the S-B group shows up in statements made by himself and his wife, and in the character references given by [redacted], Dr. Fritz KONZ, Erich SCHULTZE, Friedrich-Carl SERRE, Alfred MUELLER and Gunther WEISENBERN. These references show that E. played an active role in the S-B group, and give no indication that he dropped from the group in 1941. On the contrary, [redacted] of the references mention his efforts to help S-B. when the latter was arrested in 1942, and his assistance to the survivors, and his arranging of the release of the BUSCHMANN couple. (It is stated in MSB-1231, however, that E. claimed to have broken with S-B when the latter turned more and more to the extreme left groups; in MSB-743 the breaking of the connection is specified as occurring in the fall of 1941.)

2. Of interest in connection with E's attempt to portray S-B as showing pro-Russian tendencies only in the fall of 1941 or early 1942 is a CIC interrogation report of Manfred RÖDER, chief prosecutor of the German EQUAL trials. "S-B, the principal figure of the CHORO (i.e. S-B.-HARNACK espionage group) was a convinced radical of long standing, who made his first contact with a representative of the Soviet Intelligence in the person of Alexander ERDBERG, an employee of the Soviet Trade Delegation in Berlin. ERDBERG left Berlin in May 1941 for Russia and maintained his contact with S-B. by wireless; however, the R/K investigation did not find any evidence indicating

espionage activities of the CHORO group prior to the outbreak of hostilities between Germany and Russia in June 1941.¹¹ 5

(Also of interest is Manfred ROEDER's ~~✓~~ ^{belief} statement as (as quoted in MGH-1218) that "it (was) highly unlikely that WEISENBERN did not know about S-B's Russian connections, as all S-B's other close friends were ~~✓~~ % initiated into the secret. ".

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a) As for traces on Dr. Kurt BEHNKE, we have little beyond those POB traces attached to reference. [] His name was ~~checked~~ checked (along with others) with [] to determine if he had any knowledge of BEHNKE or had ever heard of his name in connection with RIS operations. [] Disclaimed any knowledge of BEHNKE.

b) FRANT 1864, 4 January 1950. [] will try to appoint a head to the VFS who will probably be [] He also wants to include fmu BEHNKE of the Personnel Section of his ministry.

c) BEHNKE, fmu, was listed on a SHAEF card dated 29 March 1945 as Kriminal O'Sekr, probably Gestapo stay behind agent. Trier.

d) According to Die Bundesrepublik - Taschenbuch für Verwaltungsbeamte, Dr. BEHNKE is listed as president of the Bundesdisziplinarhof which is located at Berlin -Charlottenburg 2, Hardenbergstrasse 31.

e) The present dispatch, although long, does not pretend to be a complete study of ~~all~~ ENGELING's ramifications of ENGELING's EQUAL contacts. We have tried, however, to give all available information on ~~all~~ GLOKKE's wartime activities and all possible traces on BEHNKE.

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